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Examiner: **Christopher Tate**

Group Art Unit: **1654**

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COMMENTS:

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Serial No.: 09/833,134

Filed: April 11, 2001

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By: Tricia D'Agostino

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TRICIA D'AGOSTINO

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Clifford Chance US LLP

Docket No. 5677-111

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Leo J. Romanczyk, Jr. et al.

Filed: April 11, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1654

Serial No: 09/833,134

Examiner: C. Tate

For: EXTRACTION OF STEROLS FROM COCOA HULLS

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AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed March 11, 2003. A response is due June 11, 2003. Since this action is final, a response is being filed before May 11, 2003 so that the Examiner can issue an Advisory Action by June 11, 2003.

In the Specification:

Please amend the application as follows:

Page 4, 5th paragraph rewrite as follows:

The preferred solvents are petroleum ether, hexane, pentane, and ethyl ether. The solvent is recovered by vacuum distillation or other conventional methods.

Amendment
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NYB 1408768.1

Page 5, 3rd full paragraph rewrite as follows:

Cocoa seeds with pulp removed from *Theobroma* cocoa pods were freeze-dried on a Labconco (Kansas City, MO) Freeze Dry System. The pulp and hulls were manually removed, and the freeze-dried hulls were ground to a fine powder with a Tekmar Mill (Cincinnati, OH). The ground mass was subjected to overnight extraction with redistilled petroleum ether (b. p. 38-39.6°C) in a Soxtec apparatus (Fisher Scientific, Springfield, NJ). The solvent was carefully removed by slow evaporation under a stream of nitrogen, and the resultant extracts were stored at -40°C.

Page 6, 2nd full paragraph, rewrite as follows:

Gas chromatography of sterol-TMS ether derivatives. Sterol-TMS ether derivatives were separated on a 25 m X 0.25 mm i.d. Quadrex (New Haven, CT) 50% methylphenylsilicone fused-silica capillary column, programmed at 250°C for 37 min., then 10°C/min to 300°C for 5 min on a Hewlett-Packard Model 5890A gas chromatograph. The injector and flame-ionization detector temperatures were set at 250 and 300°C, respectively. Helium was used as the carrier gas at a linear velocity (μ) of 25 cm/s. One μ L injections were split 50:1. Quantitation was achieved by the ISTD technique (11). Peak identifications were made by comparison to the retention time (t_R) of authentic sterol-TMS ether derivatives and by mass spectral analysis.

Page 7, 4th full paragraph rewrite as follows:

Combined capillary gas chromatography (GC) and gas chromatography 1 mass spectra (GC/MS) analysis were used to examine the sterol composition of the extracted cocoa oils. As shown in Figure 1, a typical sterol separation was encountered as well as the presence of several unknowns.

In The Claims

Please cancel Claims 3, 4, 19, and 29 and amend Claim 2 so it reads as follows:

Amendment

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